

**HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]**

**Adopted and Filed**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 234.6 and 2014 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2276, the Department of Human Services amends Chapter 107, “Certification of Adoption Investigators,” Chapter 108, “Licensing and Regulation of Child-Placing Agencies,” and Chapter 200, “Adoption Services,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments are necessary to implement 2014 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2276.

These amendments require additional record checks to be completed for prospective adoptive applicants working with licensed child-placing adoption agencies or certified adoption investigators. Families who apply to adopt through the Department are already subject to these checks. Child-placing adoption agencies will be required to assess and address during postplacement visits any unique needs a child has and how the family is meeting those needs before the agency recommends finalization of the adoption. These amendments lengthen the approved time for adoption from one year to two years.

These amendments require national criminal history checks on all adoptive applicants; require child abuse record checks in states where the applicants lived five years prior to requesting application for adoption; clarify record checks for international adoptions; address the unique needs of the child in postplacement reports; lengthen the time of an approved home study from one year to two years; and make technical changes to update Chapters 107, 108 and 200.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 1657C** on October 1, 2014. The Department received no comments during the comment period. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice of Intended Action.

The Council on Human Services adopted these amendments on November 12, 2014.

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations because requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 234.6 and 2014 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2276.

These amendments will become effective February 1, 2015.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Pursuant to recommendation of the Administrative Rules Review Committee published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin, September 10, 1986, the text of these amendments [amendments to Chs 107, 108, 200] is being omitted. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice as **ARC 1657C**, IAB 10/1/14.

[Filed 11/13/14, effective 2/1/15]

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[For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 12/10/14.]